Convincing Evidence of Prosperity in Kansas and Nebraska.

PROOF THAT FARMING DOES PAY

Review of the Material Condition of Two States as Shown by the Reports of the Banking Departments.

"Prosperity in Kansas and Nebraska" is the text of the third paper of Mr. Franklin Matthews, correspondent of Harper's Weekly, published in the current isuse, Mr. Matthews reviews with considerable detail the many evidences of prosperity in both states, fortifying his own observations and conclualons by official records. The paper is as

falling together. They no longer fear crop failures as they did. In the lean years since 1892 they have learned some new things about farming, and they are prepared to meet future afflictions with courage. Others may say that the prosperity was a form of may say that the prosperity was a form of the decrease in notes and bills rediscounted wheat. Of course he was a prosperous farmer anyway. He had a farm of 1,200 to the same story practically. There is the same banner wheat counties of Kansas last year, there is a man who raised \$36,000 worth of the decrease in notes and bills rediscounted wheat. Of course he was a prosperous farmer anyway. He had a farm of 1,200 good luck, due to crop failures in India and elsewhere, but you hear little of that in Kansas. Even the politicians have dropped such talk. Governor Leedy has declared of ficially that the state is prosperous. It was John W. Breidenthal, the leader of the populiet party in Kansas, who was the first of the state officials to proclaim that the prosperity of the middle west was genuine. The people there do not look upon the good times merely as temporary, a happy exception that proves the rule that the lot of the farmer in the middle west is, and is to be, one of doleful misery

The fact is that farming in the middle west, when not hampered by crushing debt, pays as few other businesses pay, and when an unusual year of plenty comes and good prices arrive at the same time, the returns, as in the year 1897, are simply fabulous and bewildering. It is safe to say that no business in this country made such returns upon the capital involved and the labor employed as did farming in 1897 in the mid-

Those stories that came from Kansas and Nebraska in the fall of 1837, those marvellous stories, were not exaggerations. The half was not told. Even the people of those two sorely stricken states do not understand yet the extent of the good times that came to them. Now that the crop statistics have been printed—now that they can look at their redeemed mortgages, their recently purchased comforts for the home, their luxurles, their top buggies, their bleveles, their planes—for the farmers have been buying all these—they are beglanning to realize that the prosperity is general and that the revival of trade in this country really began in full swing ord the boom times were over. the prosperity is general and that the re-vival of trade in this country really began with them. To encompass the extent of the

tary Coburn, by what one of its best-known citizens said to me while walking down the main street of a town of 8,000 inhabitants on a Saturday morning in December when the farmers were making their weekly pur-

probably 200 horses tied along it. I defy you to find a horse in the lot that is in poor physical condition. You cannot see the ribs of one of them. Would you find the without exception? Another thing: There is not an able-bodied pauger in this county, and there are not 100 able-bodied paugers in the entire state. We have been poor. Since 1892 many of our people have had no new clothing, but every man and every man's live stock have had a smelly the entire state. Now that we have money and there is that case the ment of human, personal interest. In the case is the ment of human, personal interest. In the case is the ment of human, personal interest. In the case is the ment of human, personal interest. In the case is the ment of human, personal interest. In the case is the ment of human, personal interest. In the case is the ment of human, personal interest. In the case is the ment of human, personal interest. In the case is the ment of human, personal interest. In the case is the ment of human, personal interest. In the case is the ment of human, personal interest. In the case is the ment of human, personal interest. In the case is the ment of human, personal interest. In the case is the ment of human, personal interest. In the case is the ment of human, personal interest. In the case is the ment of human, personal interest. In the case is the ment of human, personal interest. In the case is the ment of human, personal interest. In the ment of human, enough to eat. Now that we have money we are getting out of debt."

boom was in full swing. In 1891 the value piece of white paper into his pocket, was \$287,000,000; in 1892 it was \$273,000,000. man had been in such straits of povert. Then it began to fall off, and in the year 1896, the year of dreadful predictions for the western farmer, it fell off to \$189,000,000. The bare feet showed. crops in Nebraska for the various years bore a relation similar to those of Kansas. In Kansas the yield last year of wheat, corn and pats was valued at \$66,000,000, an increase of \$15,000,000. The total value of the agricul-tural product, excluding live stock, was more than \$136,000,000, or about \$100 for every inhabitant. Including live atock, the value the agricultural productions was probably about \$190 for each inhabitant, or nearly \$1,000 for each family in the state. Nebraska's crops and live stock in 1897 aggregated in value \$181,000,000. In one county Kansas-Rush county-the value of the wheat crop alone was more than \$1,200 for each voter.

However significant these figures and stimates as to crop production may be, there

BRIGHT SKIES IN THE WEST

per cent. Is it any wonder that Kansas has more a cres. It was worth probably \$7,000. He had a more a more account of the figures I obtained from the department of banking in Nebraska summed up thank which held the more age to have the indebtedness reduced. He regarded the mortmonth of Scotember, 1897, later figures not gage as a rather shaky security. Early in having arrived at the time of my visit. October he received a letter from the bank

Year.	No. of Banks.	Loans.	drafts,	Reserve.	Due from Banks	Deposits.	Borrowed Money.	Per Ct
1892	513 504 442 447 414 298	23,798,518 23,952,062 19,085,788	11 319,501 7 41 231,944 1 58 174,009 1	56 1,537,010 56 55 1,769,352 41 20 1,924,302 81	2,941,700 06 3,226,019 84 2,518,647 78	824,891,115 39 17,209,476 14 18,674,832 43 14,209,775 53 10,227,537 93 13,632,848 69	1,487,053 40 946,748 52 1,000,339 11	26 26 28

gain in resources in 1897 over 1896 was more than \$2,500,000. Hon. P. L. Hall, secretary to the banking department of the state, furnishes this comment explaining the table:

| Country | Ivee a former member of the legis-

and there, and the current will continue to be felt not for one year, but for several. But there was one place where the sunshine brought immediate gladness, and that was brought immediate gladness, and that was upon the farm.

"There is not a man, woman or child in Kansas that hasn't got some money this year," said Secretary F. D. Coburn of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture to the writer in answer to a question as to the law of the survival of the fittest. The grow, and when he had harvested it he got \$3,000 for it. That man is no longer looking for a political job.

Today I feel free to say that there is not annumber of the grow, and when he had harvested it he got \$3,000 for it. That man is no longer looking for a political job.

In Sheridan county, adjoining Thomas, there is a man who had a tail section of land, 320 acres, on which he owed \$800. He writer in answer to a question as to the two items 'Cash' and 'Due From Banks'.

has come. They have nothing to say about striking. From the latest reports of the that tract with alfalfa, the wonderful hay the price of wheat and silver rising and comptroller of the currency the subjoined that resists drouth and that gives three table is compiled. The figures are from the crops a year, the season's product being reports submitted periodically, and although worth, at present prices, not less than \$25 they do not correspond exactly in time to an acre.
those from the state banks, they tell the In Summer county, which was one of the

Here we see an increase of deposits of more than \$3,000,000 for 1897 over 1896. \$17,000 worth of wheat on that land, had paid the amount of borrowed money has fallen from \$1,400,000 in 1893, the second year adjoining quarter section of land for \$2,500 more than \$225,000. Loans decreased from \$28,000,000 in 1892 to \$13,000,000 in 1897. The making his purchases, with which to improve

nishes this comment explaining the table:

The story of the prosperity that the crops of 1897 brought to Kaneas and Nebraska probably will not be revealed fully for several years. Through the channels of trade the sweep of prosperity has been turned here

Kansas State Board of Agriculture to the writer in answer to a question as to the real effect upon the masses of the large crops.

And that tells the story, so far as it can be told in one sentence. Kansas and Nebraska people do not deny that prosperity

The glues of the story and comparison also to give attention to give attention to be told. The figures from national banks are equally that the story and comparison also to give attention to the section of land adjoining his farm, and a reserve fund. That man has 150 that trends are so bottom land, and he will plant that trends are so bottom land, and he will plant that trends are so bottom land, and he will plant that trends are so better the story and comparison also to give attention to the section of land adjoining his farm. And a reserve fund. That man has 150 that trends with alfalfa, the wonderful has the story and comparison and the section of land adjoining his farm.

	No. Loans and Braks Discounts.	Due from Capital Reserve Stock Agents Paid in.	Surplus Individua Fund. Deposits	Notes & Total Bills Redisco't'd. Resources.
Dec. 16, 189 Oct. 5, 1897	. 103 18,682,122 94	\$3,282,981 49 \$5,552,100 \$ 5,500,958 89 8,567,100 TABLE OF NATIO	1,390,339 14 19,388,649	96(8371,271 19(832,030,338 48 V2(167,141 87) 24,718,465 73
	No. Loans and Binks Discounts.	Due from Capital Reserve Stock Agents Paid In.	Surplus Individu	
			THE RESERVE AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY OF THE	THE RESIDENCE OF THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN 2 IN COLUM

in Nebraska may be found in a study of its his place. mortgage statistics. Kansas collects no statistics of mortgages, but does collect statistics of agriculture. Nebraska, on the other hand, collects few statistics of agri-

my investigation. is about equal in Nebraska from year to year. The drop of 9,384 mortgages during 1895. with a decrease in valuation of \$9,275,758, shows probably what Nebraska's big corn crop of 1895 did for the state in one year.

The influence of the presperity for 1897 will probably be shown in the mortgage statistics

The figures I have given tell the general

The manager of one of the largest coal One thing should be remembered at the companies in Kansas told me that in Novemoutset. The crops for 1897 were not the big- ber last he went into the flour mill of an gest that Kansas and Nebraska ever pro-duced. The value of the Kansas crop, as youd the center of the state and almost on estimated by the state authorities, was \$230.- the border of the "short grass" country. He estimated by the state authorities, was \$230.

continuated by the state authorities, was \$230.

the border of the "short grass" country. He met a farmer past middle age coming out of the mill. The farmer was tucking a little man had been in such straits of poverty that his trousers were patched with burlap. His boots were broken, and through the holes his The man's attire was really that of a tramp. "Did you see that farmer going out?" said

the miller to the coal man. "How much money do you suppose I just

"Oh, \$500 or \$600."

"Well, I gave him a check for \$7,000." That \$7,000 represented only part of the wheat raised on a \$1,200 farm. had 4,000 more bushels to sell. had 4,000 more bushels to sell. That man had, owned his farm clear, but had little working capital. He decided that under no consideration would he run in debt. His family lived on the dairy products of his farm, and went without those things for which cash must be paid usually. The first thing he did with his money from lest year's wheat was to fit out his family in sowing because he had made all preparations and then ha went in for some luxis another set of figures that tell more clothes, and then he went in for some lux- for it, but his heart was heavy. He did not eloquently the story of prosperity that has ucles. He bought two carriages and a plane, see how he was going to pay off that more

wheat held in reserve, into more land.

Here is another story, vauched for by Mr. ing the condition of business in that state at the close of the month of October, 1897, when the returns from cross were nearly finished, the returns from cross were nearly finished. as compared with the returns at the same is no man in Kansas better equipped with in-

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT IN				OCTOBER, 1897, 0F KANSAS BANKS,						
Year.	No. of Banks.	Loans	-	Over- drafts.	1	Legal Reserve.	1	Deposits.	Money.	Per Cent Reserve.
1891 1892 1893 1894 1895	414 457 430 412 408 592 279	(\$19,201.544 20,761.196 17,719.491 18,361.451 17,866.514 15,537,125 17,148,941	19 22 71 70 44	419,039 6 441,002 0 273,121 7 261,140 0	200		86 97 16 04	16,871,103 51 16,587,414 50	1,388,313 75 999,481 35 885,906 46	35.96 41.27 29.82 38.13 37.54 42.03 56.93

The most striking thing that this table | than he. The county seat of Ness county shows is that the deposits in the banks under state supervision increased in one year nearly

\$7,000,000, and the reserve cash and sight exchange increased nearly \$5,000,000. Then look at the column showing the amount of bor-rowed money. In 1891 it amounted to nearly \$1,800,000. In 1897 it had fallen to less than \$300,000. The total resources of these banks increased nearly \$6,000,000 in one year, and under the operation of the new banking law of the state the real estate and furniture and fixtures of the banks were marked down nearly \$500,000. Loans had in-creased more than \$1 500,000, but that was under the new banking law, which has thrown greater safeguards around such matters, and which will be considered at another time. The legal reserve in these banks is 20 per cent. The table shows that

out in that dreary and almost desert-like part of the state known as the "short grass" country, is Ness City. It is a place of about 450 inhabitants and it has a state bank. It is Mr. Breidenthal's duty to go there occasionally and examine that bank. He said that in Ness City there is an agent for a company that that agent sold in that town 400 top buggles. Of course that would mean one for almost every man, woman and child in the place

which would be preposterous. The buggles went all over the county, but I venture to oay that no eastern village ever could show such a record of prospecity in the buggy trade.

NEBRASKA MORTGAGE STATISTICS. Another indication of a presperous change | farmer is putting up a \$29,000 residence on

Here is a story of a man who really be came discouraged just as sunshine began to mellow the lot of many a weary man. This other hand, collects few statistics of agriculture, but does collect statistics of agriupon the capital involved and the labor of her mortgages. It is done through the midlie west.

THE HALF WAS NOT TOLD.

Those stories that came from Kansas and

The mortgages on real estate in Nebraska, with a value of \$9.373.585. These mortgages did not begin to include all the indebtedness. Those carly in the season he went to the bank and said here was collect.

Grand Army encampment. He had made Perhaps the condition of Kansas especially can best be revealed in a paragraph, aside from the remark I have quoted from Secretary Coburn, by what one of its best-known on it a little more than \$5,000. They raised on it 20,000 bushels of wheat, for which they got probably not less than \$13,000 at 65 cents

bank had been "hanging on by the eye-brows" for month after month. Every time poor physical condition. You cannot see the ribs of one of them. Would you find the horses of eastern farmers in such condition the general reader because they lack the his father that the bank surely would go down the next menth. It held \$50,000 worthless noss, or notes that seemed worth less. The young man, who was cashier, finally quit the place to avoid the crash that was inevitable. But the crash did not come. The crops were enormous, and all those notes were paid. That little bank is now a most prosperous institution, and i will be a long time before it gets caught in another such predicament. Its condition typical, one might say, of probably a hun-dred other banks in the state.

WHEAT AND SILVER. Here is a story of a man who was converted to populism by hearing Mr. Bryan speak. Every detail is vouched for to me by men of the highest standing. A re-publican who had always been true to the party faith was in the crowd when Mr. Bryan spoke in the 1896 campaign in his own state. He heard Mr. Bryan say: "Ah, my friends, let me call your attention to one fact that stands out clearly beyond contradiction. It is that wheat and silver staninseparably yoked together. If one falls the other falls, and then we fall. Look at their price to lay (it was something over 60 cents). They are within one cent of each other. I tell you they are together now, inseparably That republican was converted right there.

The farmer That was something he had never thought That man of. He had an 80-acre piece of land, and eloquently the story of planets. They are come to Kansas and Nebraska. They are the figures that give the condition of the banks. Here is a table prepared by Bank Commissioner Breidenthal of Kansas, showat the price of silver. It was something like 47 cents, and that man saw a great light. He lost on Mr. Bryan's prophecy and election, but he won on the wheat. He made enough to pay off his mortgage, and has now gone back to the republican party, as have thousands of others, which accounts for the fact that instead of having only about one-third of the voters of the state, as was the case three years ago, the repub-licans came within 15,000 of winning last year against a fusion of democrats and

> "WHAT FOOLS THESE MORTALS BE." Here is a story of half a dozen wise populats, well known in political affairs throughout the state of Nebraska, who planned a coup against that greatest of all enemies to the farmers, that representative of the grinding capitalist, the elevator-man. These farmers read in the populist newspapers early in 1897 that wheat was surely going down. Silver was going down, and of course wheat must follow. They decided to make a deal with the elevator agent. They knew that he read the capitalistic newspapers of the east and west. These papers said that not only was there to be a large crop of wheat, but that its price was to be high. Since the good times came They knew better than that—their own parthat town 400 top buggless per told them so, and they knew a thing or two themselvse-and so they went to the elevator man and offered to sell out their entire wheat yield at 45 cents a bushel. The elevator man told them that they were foolish, that wheat was going up. They said they were willing to take the chances, but, upon the elevator man's suggestion, with-

Your Opportunity Now.

Our clearance sale of odd fuaniture pieces is now on in earnest-Many are taking advantage of these our greatest reductions-In some cases we've only one piece of a kind, while in others three or four-while the prices have been reduced so as to sell them quick—early Monday morning buyers are sure of 2x3 yard Rugs..... \$4.80 3x4 yard Rugs..... \$ 9.70 3x4 yard Rugs..... \$ 1.25 the best selections.

\$22.50 to Oak Combination, polished French plate glass, bric-a-brac china top, was \$22.00, one for One Settee, in satin damask, has been held at \$125-to sell it quick Natural curley birch combination cabinet top, plane polish, plate pattern, four drawers, with locks, was \$28.00, now 2-piece Parlor Suft-settee and arm chair, solid mahogany, iniaid with satin wood, reduced from \$82.50 to Misses' combination, polished quarter oak, 3 drawers, has been \$22.00, clearing price 3-piece Solid Mahogany Parlor Suit, * Solid Mahogany Book Case, six adjustable shelves, always been \$10,00. upholstered in damask, in this sale cut from \$71 to 2-piece Parlor Suit, solid mahogany settee and arm chair, cut in this clearing sale from \$65 to An odd piece from Parlor Sult, over stuffed Settee, no arms, worth all of \$18.50, slightly solled makes the price Oak, polished Serving Buffet, reduced from \$9.50 Large upholstered mahogany rocker, a \$30,00 value Very fine quarter sawsd Buffet, fluted legs, was \$16.50, Rocker, uphelstered in cordurey, loose cushion, regular \$18.00, 10-foot solid Mahogany Dining Table-we've sold them at \$42.00-now ther're Beautiful mahogany Parlor Table, artistically iniaid, elegant, but too high cost at \$30, now Select quarter sawed top, French leg Dining Table, 8-foot, was \$22.00, now We have eight bedroom and tea Tables, white enamel and hand decorated. These are fine goods and have sold at from \$10.00 to \$15.00, now all at A 355 solld Mahogany swell front and nd Sideboard, reduced Bird's eye maple Parlor Table, with two shelves—a good seller at \$12.50—only one, at Solid Mahogany Ladies' Desk, was \$16.00, now reduced Bird's eye Table, inlaid Lima mahogany, was \$12.00. In Tabourettes we are showing Handsome natural sycamore Dresser, landscape, French plate, was \$37.50, The white enamel, with decorations, slightly imperfect, was \$10, only one, now French plate mirror, Sycamore Chiffonier, cheap at \$22.00, but now it is A Byzantine Bowl, tabourette finished, in Malchite Elegant bird's eye maple Dressing Table, cut from \$20.00 Large quarter oak Tabourette Table, with work box and Yale lock, cut in half, now Misses' Dressing Table, quarter sawed and mahogany, reduced from \$10.00 to Very large natural finish Tabourette

50 00 35 00 **15 00** Very heavy oak chamber suite, 3 pieces, was \$119.00, now down to Fine curly birch Bedroom Suite, 3 pieces, from \$63.50

3x3 yard Rugs..... 7.25 4x4 yard Rugs..... 12.90 3x31 yard Rugs.... 8.50 4x5 yard Rugs.... 13.00 The popular Taiko Japanese Rugs—best 6x9 feet.......\$ 7.00 7x6 feet...........\$10.00 9x12 feet...... 12.50 4x7 Delft Blue..... 3.00 Smyrna in room sizes—both sides alike— 7-6x10-6.....\$12.00 9x12.....\$16.00 Kulah Smyrna—very desirable— 7-6x10-6.....\$18.00 Bromley's Smyrnas—known to everybody 6x9...... \$12.50 9x12...... \$24.00 7-6x10-6.....\$18.00 Axminster Rugs— 8-3x10-6.....\$25.00 9x12.....\$27.00 Small Sizes nowhere else as cheap as in our rug department—

Annual Rug Sale

Never at this season have we had a

greater variety-a larger stock at so reasonable a price as right now-Beginn-

ing with the large room rugs-we show

the reversible Kensington Art Squares

2x3 yard Rugs.....\$4.80 3x4 yard Rugs.....\$ 9.75

in all the new designs and colorings.

We make all carpet remnants into Rugs and you can save big money in these if we have your size-8-3x10-6 Brussels.. \$11.00 10-6x12 Brussels...\$15.50

18x36 inch......\$.75 30x60 inch...... \$2,00

21x45 inch...... 1.20 36x72 inch...... 3.25

26x54 inch...... 1.65 48x84 inch...... 5.00

18x36 inch........ 1.00 27x63 inch....... 2.50

36x72 inch......\$4.00

Moquette-

8-3x12 Moquette... 17 50 10-6x12 Wilton, . . . 25,00 8-3x10-6 Moquette: 16.00 10-6x12 Brussels..., 13.50 9x11-6 Brussels. . . 13.50 11-3x13-9 Brussels. . 22.50 10-6x12-9 B ussels., 16.00 11-3x10-6 Brussels., 20.00

ORCHARD & WILHELM CARPET COMPA

1414-1416-1418 DOUGLAS STREET.

as well as he. After a time they came back prevailing, \$67.60. The prize for it was \$30. and the relater of fiction was soon cast out and said, as they nudged one another, that The nearest competitor had 303 bushels in of Tammany. Then came a decline in the animor and that the revival of trade in this country really began with them. To encompass the extent of the prosperity and to set it forth in an article of a few thousand words is a task that involves the serious difficulty of knowing not only where to begin, but where to leave off. It involves statements of truth that are asping one another on the shoulders and had a riot of laughter. Their laughter was all gone when they carted several thousand bushels of wheat to the elevator in the fall at 45 cents a bushel, while their neighbors were getting from 65 to 70 cents for their wheat. Now these conspiring populists are known all over Nebraska, and the story of world, could produce such results? Does their deal with the elevator man has been published in that state. I simply give it wider circulation to present a humorous side to these presently states. spirit of criticism of populists or the populistic faith. Whatever may be said of the

9.00 to

corduroy—damaged slightly—hence the great reduction from \$45 to

Large Turkish Arm Chair, upholstered in

loyal Americans, honest in their beliefs and lovers of good government. SNUG PROFIT.

populist lealers, the eastern visitor will find the rank and file of the party composed of

One of the largest banking firms in Omaha had to take a farm of several hundred acres of land in the western part of the state on a mortgage foreclosure. It was land thought to be fit only for grazing cattle. One of the members of the firm told me that they learned with regret that ninety acres of that land had been ploughed. They feared that the high winds would blow the gritty aoil all over the rest of that land. A farmer from that region wrote to the bankers, offering to give them one-third of the profits if they would allow him to raise wheat on the ninety-acre tract. The bankers agreed with alacrity. They heard no more from their ten-ant for months. The land was worth at the outside \$3.50 an acre. The ninety acres could have been purchased for \$390. Late in November the bankers received a check for \$522 for their one-third of the wheat raised on that \$300 piece of property. Out of their share the farmer had deducted 6 cents a bushel for hauling the wheat sixteen miles and for other expenses. The binkers said they had not sought to verify the farmer's accounts; they were satisfied as matters stood. While I was talking with one of the firm there came two letters to the house One was from a man who had borrowed \$1,800 from them, which was due in 1899. He asked to be allowed to pay \$1,200 on it at once. The other lettr was from a man who owed them \$1,200, due in 1900. That man wanted to pay \$600 on his debt.
Perhaps one of the best illustrations as to

the way the farmers look upon the prosperity of the year 1897 was shown by the carnival that took place in the little town of Manhat-tan, the home of Sen-tor Hessin, and the seat of the Agricultural college, around seat of the Agricultural to the whose faculty there was so much political strife last year. The business men of Manhattan and the farmers round about thought there should be some adjudate celebration of the arrival of good times. They therefore held a carnival on November 13, for which there was contributed nearly \$700 in cash prizes. There was a great parade of the grouped. The prizes were for all sorts of all events he is seen buried in the inevitable evening in Philadelphia, Dr. 3 things. There were prizes for the best horses and mules; best driving first man and woman horseback riders; the best eattle, calves, hogs and lambs; the best seeman bicycle rider; best decorated farmer's buggy; best band; best decorated business house; "largest, freshest and heaviest five dozen hen eggs;" best country clown; farmers' foot race for ages between 50 and 80; heaviest baby over months and under 1 - year; best loaf of bread, farmers' wives and daughters only to compete; "the most eccentric, grotesque and humorous vehicle, team and driver in the parade;" the best looking farmers' single son and single daughter in the parade; the largest number of loads of corn from any township; the largest load of corn drawn by two horses or mules, and a lot of other things, to say nothing of the \$750 worth of fireworks that went off in the evening.

Surely that was a glorious day for any farming community. Any person who can read over the list of prizes and say there was not an entire townful of rejoicing must have little soul in him, or know nothing about the fun farmers have when they get together. I doubt if any town in the west ever had a better time than did Manhattan on that one crop a formula.

One crop a formula town near the center of the state—I am not at liberty to give his name—who had a section of land, 640 the philosophy of wheat and wheat prices

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A PRIZE LOAD. they serve to point out that the prosoperity which could furnish such extreme cases, scattered here and there through the states, must have been general and far-reaching. wider circulation to present a humorous side similar amount, will return from \$15,000 to these presperity stories, and not in any \$20,000, as was the result in hundreds of cases in Kansas and other western states? It is true such a condition of affairs may never occur again. It has occurred once, however, and it has enabled the states in the central west to get out of debt. They will borrow hereafter only as other states borrow, and even if no such good times come again they have money laid up and are ready to

do farming on ordinary profits.

It was interesting to watch the effect of this prosperity upon the farmers. So far as I could observe and learn, there was little could not have written them himself. elation. That carnivil at Manhattan was the only case of open rejoicing that I heard of in the state of Kansas. The joy that came to the thousands upon thousands of homes bringing gladness, especially to the women on whom the hard times fell with almost crushing force as they battled to help their bushands and fithers, is the kind that expresses itself oftenest in tears. With the money that they made last year the farmers purchased the necessities they had gone without, and the luxuries that their wives and daughters craved, and then they went home ready to face the problems of and the coming years of plenty, but this pared with their surplus eirnings and their experience in economy and in improved methods of farming to meet fearlessly an- owned by private parties and not by Perhaps sev- battle. The lean years have passed. eral years of plenty are to follow.

There are those who declare that such prosperity as that of 1897 is not a blessing.

in that it encourages those who experience it to false expectations. Many think that the farmers this year will go into wheat raising on a disastrous scale. It is difficult to bethat a people as intelligent as the people of Kansas can make such a mistake as

GOSSIP ABOUT NOTED PEOPLE.

acteristics a correspondent of the Boston Transcript says: "He loves to get some tion respecting the tariff schedules. For one personal attribute he is especially famous, and that is his overcoat. He has a all events he is seen buried in the inevitable evening in Philadelphia, Dr. McVickar, the garment even when the atmosphere in the new bishop-coadjutor of Rhode Island, told house is considerably above summer heat."

greatest tin mine in the world, which has paid \$7,500,000 in dividends, died a short time ago practically penniless. "Philosopher" Smith, as he was called, had a per sion of \$1,000 per sonum from the New South Wales government, but it did not enable him to make provision for his wife. The New South Wales parliament was accordingly asked to continue half the pen-sion in her favor, which it did by a large majority. When Mount Bischoff was made into a stock company Smith took a large number of shares, but, losing confidence in his own discovery, sold them for a song.

Richard Croker, the Tammany bose, is rigidly temperate, and his private life is purity itself. It is related of him that on the occasion of a "scratch" dinner to which a dozen or so of men had been invited he listened with disgust while one of the guests related with glee the fiction he had sent over the telephone to his wife as a reason for not dining at home. The guest was a famous member of Tammsen at the

In a recent speech in the South Carolina etc. and so they would sign contracts to de-liver their wheat at 45 cents a bushel. The agreements were signed with solemn faces, and then the populists stalked out. When they got around the corner they fell to slapthe man he was playing poker," continued Senator Aldrich, not noticing the interrup-tion. "Was my friend accidentally at the poker game?" put in a third sensitor. "Yes, accidentally," replied Senator Aldrich, "as I didn't know how to play, and second, I was

> Thackeray and the late Dean Liddell were boys together at the famous Chartethouse school, and they sat next to each other in the form, the boys of which were called the "Emeriti." No one was promoted from this form who could not repeat from memory the Eclogues and the Georgies. This feat was accomplished by Liddell, but not by Thackeray. In giving these reminiscences some years ago at the speech day of the Oxford Boys' High school, Dr. Liddell added that Thackeray accused him later of having

Representative Sperry of Connecticut is probably the last survivor of the gentlemen who were closely associated in the construc-tion of the famous Monitor that fought with the Merrimac in Hampton roads. The three builders of the "yankee cheese box" were John Ericsson, a Swede, known the world the over as the inventor; Cornelius S. Bushnell armers of New Haven, and John A. Gr.swold of gone Troy, N. Y., the last two being interested with Mr. Ericason as part owners. Mr. Bushnell and Mr. Sperry were close friends and the latter went on Mr. Bushnell's bond for \$200,000. It should be borne in mindwhat is not generally known to students of American history—that the Monitor was government when she fought the historic

Mrs. Cornelia Walter Richards, who re cently died at the age of 85, was the sister of the founder of the Boston Transcript, and was the editor of that paper for a time after the death of her brother. It was concerning her that Edgar Allan Poe wrote the following in the Broadway Journal in the autumn of 1845: "Our excellent friend, Major Noah, has suffered himself to be cajoled by that most beguiling of all beguiling little divinities. Miss Walter, of the Transcript. We have been looking all over her article with the aid of a taper, to see if we could discover a single syllable of truth in it—and really blush to acknowlperson aside and fill him up with informa-tion respecting the tariff schedules. For ture has been telling a parcel of fibs about us, by way of revenge, for something that we did to Mr. Longfellow (who, admires her very much) and for calling her 'a pretty

At the dinner given in his honor the other this characteristic anecdote of the late Phillips Brooks: "I remember a few years ago I was traveling with one of the grand-est bishops and one of the grandest men of the century. I was sauntering with him from church in Luzerne, in Switzerland, and he said something so boyish and fresh just as he was ever wont to do. I stopped and looked at him, and said: 'Brooks, it seems so strange that you should be a bishop.' He looked at me with almost a startled expression, and he said: 'McVickor it seems so strange to me that sometimes, when I am putting on my clothes, I have to stop and laugh.' It was just the freshness of that man which always kept him young. and which I am sure you will understand as I give it, for I venture to say there has been such a bishop in our or any other church."

Arnold's Bromo Colery cures headsches 10c, 25c and 50c. All druggists.

NEW YORK, Feb. 12.—The central cable office of the Western Union Telegraph company sent out the following notice this morning: "Advices from Nagasaki, Japan, say that a heavy snow storm has inter-rupted telegraphic communication with all points in the interior except Shimonseki." RELIGIOUS.

The total sales of the two Methodist Enispublishing houses at New York and mati since 1848 have amounted to \$60,-

Pope Leo gave 20,000 francs in alms to the oor at Rome at Caristmas time, and dur-ing the last fifteen years gave dowers to a poor maidens.

The Baptist Home Mission society will send two missionaries, a minister and a physician to the Klondike. The estimated cost will be \$4,000 a year. The Catholics of Portland, Ore., are making preparations to celebrate the silver episcopal jubile of Archbishop Gross, which will occur April 27. Mgr. Dussuerre, archbishop of Algiers, who has recently died, entered the Roman Catholic church from the army, being a pri-vate in the zouaves, and before that a fac-

The duke of Norfolk, who is an ardent Roman Catholic, in a recent letter said: "Thank God, two of my sisters are nucs, and, thank God, one of my wife's last acts was to found a convent."

The home mission board of the Presby-terian church has issued an earnest ap-peal for increased donations. It is stated that since October the receipts have fallen off very much, especially in the eastern synods.

Rev. Edward Allen, a clergyman of the

Rev. Edward Allen, a clergyman of the Church of England, recently celebrated his 199th birthday. He speaks twelve languages and has seen four monarchs on the English throne. It is stated that he enjoys the best of health.

the best of health.

Leslie M. Shaw, governor of lowa, who has served consecutively twenty full years as superintendent of the Methodist Episcopal Sunday school at Denison, Ia., has severed his connection with the school in consequence of his removal to the capital, Des Moines.

The Churchman, in alluding to the hatred against the Jews which exists in foreign countries, and to some extent in our own, "reminds Christians that Jesus was a Jew, and that Peter, and John, and Paul were Jews, and that the saints and heroes, to poets and leaders of the two Testaments were Jews."

Pope Leo received gifts valued at \$1.200.

Pope Leo received gifts valued at \$1,200,-000 on the occasion of the sixtieth anni-versary of his ordainment as a priest. Among the cash gifts were a check for \$40,-000 from the duke of Norfolk, \$29,000 in gold from the queen regent of Spain, \$12,500 from Kaiser Withelm, \$40,000 from the Austrian bishops and \$60,000 from the Hungarian pri-mate. mate. Tae Central Presbyterian church of Balti-more for its last communion service had to secure a preacher from another city because Rev. Dr. Joseph T. Smith, pastor

because Rev. Dr. Joseph T. Smits, pastor emeritus of the church, who is temporarily filling the pulpit, as the pustorate is vacant, absolutely refuses to officiate or even to assist at a communion service at which unfermented wine is used.

An English paper says that Bishop E'licott of Gloucester enjoys the privilege of
being allowed to travel on any rallway in
England free of charge. This unusual favor
was conferred upon him in recognition of
his heroic exertions in administering spiritual consolation to the dying victims in a
rallway accident near Tottenham, notwithstanding his own very serious injuries.
This was while the bishop was still a young
man.

man.

An eloquent Methodist revivalist at Oskaloosa, Kan., produced a powerful effect on numbers of young people of the place, but they couldn't quite bring themselves to go to what the Salvation Army calls the pentent form, on the front benches, because they were joily young people and enloyed frequent dances. An Episcopal clergyman, seeing a way to increase his congregation, preached a sermon in which he made it clear that his church did not regard dancing as a sin. When the news spread the young people permitted themselves to be converted at the revival services, and then joined the Episcopal church. The revivalist thereupon accused the Episcopal brother of unfairness. They met in a newspaper office and had a warm tilt, but, as the local editor said, only their spiritual bodies were harmed. harmed.

There are three little things water to more work than any other three little things crested—they are the ant, the bee and DeWitt's Little Early Risers, the last being the famous little pills for stomach and liver troubles

Spicides Follow Entrain INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 12.-Mrs. Lizzie W. Huffman of Brightwood is dead from the effects of a narcotic poison taken with daughter, Edith, committed suicide, Previous to Edith's death her lover, Harry Phillips, killed himself. The daughter was despondent over her lover's act and the mother could not stand her sorrow over the daughter's death,